

DALLAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

801 Court, Adel, Iowa 50003

Dallas County Health Department: (515) 993-3750

- ITEM 1.** The regular meeting of the Dallas County Board of Health was called to order by Chairman Kim Chapman at 7:03pm on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 via Zoom. Present from the board were Kim Chapman, Dr. Josh Kindt, Samantha Uhlenhake, and Monty Button. Staff included Suzanne Hegarty, Ted Trewin, and Abigail Chihak. Chuck Sinnard, Sam Sides, Heather Bombei, Chad Leonard, and Jim Caufield were also in attendance.
- ITEM 2.** Kindt moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Button. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**
- ITEM 3.** Jim Caufield, the Perry News, spoke in open forum requesting an update of the situation at the Tyson plant in Perry during the Coronavirus update (ITEM 12).
- ITEM 4.** Button moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Uhlenhake. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**
- ITEM 5.** Kindt moved to approve the minutes of the February 25th and April 7th meetings. Button seconded the motion. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**
- ITEM 6.** Hegarty presented the application for a continuation of the Immunization Grant. The County is required to offer immunizations for children that would otherwise not be able to receive them. This grant covers the clinical costs to do so. Uhlenhake moved to approve the application with the amendment of the date on page 5 and authorize the director to sign. Button seconded the motion. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**
- ITEM 7.** Hegarty presented the application for the continuation of the Pick a Better Snack grant. This program allows Amy to go into the school for monthly nutrition and farm to school programming. Kindt moved to approve the grant application and authorize the director to sign. The motion was seconded by Uhlenhake. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**
- ITEM 8.** Hegarty requested the board to ratify a signature on the BOH Response Grant. The CDC released dollars to IDPH for COVID-19 response which were passed to counties through this program. As a meeting was not scheduled, an amendment was put through so DCHD could pay for response activities over the last 6 weeks. The grant will cover roughly one month to 5 weeks of salary and supply expenses. Supply costs include fulfillment of 98 resource requests for long term care facilities, Dallas County Hospital, local clinics, EMS, first responders, and the Sheriff's department. Kindt asked where ongoing extra funding will come from. Hegarty responded that some funds from the Local Public Health Services and Immunization grants can be used. After that the department will need to use county funds. Kindt moved to ratify Director Hegarty's signature on the BOH Response Grant. Uhlenhake seconded the motion. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**

- ITEM 9.** Dr. Kindt offered to continue as medical director for the department. The medical director position is appointed by the Board of Health for a May 1-April 30 term annually. Button moved to approve Dr. Kindt as medical director for the Dallas County Health Department. The motion was seconded by Uhlenhake. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**
- ITEM 10.** Chihak requested approval for out of state travel to attend the Association for Rural and Small Libraries as a conference presenter alongside Mary Murphy regarding public health programming at the Perry Public Library. The Harnessing the Power of Iowa's Libraries grant would cover any travel related costs. Kindt moved to approve the request for out of state travel. Uhlenhake seconded the motion. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.**
- ITEM 11.** Hegarty provided a verbal update of Dallas County Coronavirus response efforts:
- a. As of May 5th, there are 613 cases with 221 recovered resulting in 389 active cases in Dallas County. The first three deaths occurred this week. Hegarty explained that at the start Dallas County had the first case of community spread which resulted in a spike. The cases then plateaued and have recently spiked again after increased testing efforts at Tyson, long term care facilities, and Test Iowa sites. She explained that as the investigatory authority the vast majority of people we have talked with have not been seriously ill. Symptoms have shifted from respiratory and fevers to muscle aches, loss of taste and smell and GI issues. Hegarty further explained that many people are not realizing that they are sick so they are still going to work and out in public. She reiterated that any symptoms, including those that may be attributed to allergies or other illnesses, should prompt residents to stay home. She explained that department staff investigate every positive case that resides in Dallas County to learn about their symptoms, onset, household contacts, and other close contacts.
 - b. Kindt asked what the approximate turn around time was between being tested and receiving the results. Hegarty explained that it depends on the lab. The State Hygienic Lab has been able to turn the results around between 24-48 hours, though there was a back log this week. Towards the beginning other labs were taking up to 7-8 days which resulted in many people be contacted and released on the same day.
 - c. Kindt asked if there was a clear association between cases and a previously known positive case. Hegarty stated this was often not the case as only household contacts were asked at the start.
 - d. Kindt asked Hegarty to speak to some of the mass testing happening. Hegarty explained that the Tyson plant in Perry was an interesting situation. The reason that the department didn't put out any numbers was because their workforce was across many jurisdictions so any information provided would only be a partial glimpse at the workforce.
 - e. Button asked if any other attendees had any questions. Caufield asked about the departments capacity to complete contract tracing for all the cases out of the Tyson outbreak. Hegarty reminded everyone that not all 730 cases were Dallas County residents and we only do contact tracing for our residents. To date all contact tracing has been completed in house, however this week the department requested additional assistance from IDPH going forward.
 - f. Uhlenhake asked what the impact has been on the food recovery and pantry programs. Chihak explained that the Perry Food Recovery program is on hold while the library is closed. Pop Up Produce and Pantries have changed to a curbside/drive through model.
- ITEM 12.** Chapman asked if there was any other business.

- a. Uhlenhake asked for clarification on the need for board participation in the UWCI grant interviews. Hegarty explained that the interview process was cancelled and decisions will be made solely on the written application.
- b. Kindt asked for an update on filling the 5th board position. Chapman explained that different contact information was needed. Kindt will follow up with Chapman.
- c. Leonard expressed gratitude for the department's efforts, especially of Rhonda and Suzanne, over the last few months. He thanked them for working long hours and weekends and their willingness to talk with his staff to provide education after one of his employees tested positive. Chapman echoed the Sheriff's praises.
- d. Hegarty added that AJ Seely has been doing a phenomenal job and that he has been integral in county response efforts.
- e. Uhlenhake congratulated Abigail and Amy on receiving the Waukee APEX Catalyst Award.

ITEM 13. Kindt moved to adjourn the meeting. Button seconded the motion. No discussion. **All ayes, motion carried.** Chapman closed the meeting at 7:47pm. The next regular meeting of the Dallas County Board of Health will be June 23, 2020, 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Chihak
Community Health Administrator
Dallas County Health Department